HX
11
523
948/49

FABIAN SOCIETY

66th ANNUAL REPORT

For the Fifteen Months 1st April, 1948—30th June, 1949

INTRODUCTION

The Society can record a year of many achievements. We are confident that the publications and unpublished reports of the Society have been of a high quality and have aroused an increasing interest. Evidence of this can be found in the 1949 Report of the Labour Party which paid a generous tribute to the assistance given to their Research Department; in the many reviews which have appeared in both national and local papers; in the pages of Trade Union journals and the higher volume of orders from Trade Unions; and in the response we received when we have circularised Local Labour Parties.

The work done proves convincingly that there is a continuing need for an independent Socialist society working in close conjunction with, and trusted by, the wider Labour movement. The need for such a society has not been obviated by the existence of a Labour Government—far from it. As the first five-year period draws to its close it becomes increasingly apparent that new problems, both of the present and of the future, have come to light which received very little attention when Labour was working out its programme in opposition. There is no need to specify these; a few days' study of the press will provide plenty of examples. The point, however, is that these problems cannot be solved without forward-thinking, and forward thinking, moreover, conducted not only by " official " circles which cannot in the nature of things put forward experimental *ballons d'essai*, but by people who can make suggestions, criticise past policy, and draw morals for the future without either " committing the Movement " or laying themselves open to the charge of disruptive tactics. The Fabian Society is, now, the *only* body which is in a position to do this; and if our movement is not to become sterile or to stiffen into Chinese immobility we regard it as of the very highest importance that it should continue to do so—quite apart from the serious function, carried out by the National Society and Local Societies alike, of training by intellectual discussion and practical experience in political work teams of administrators and thinkers for a new order. We must, however, warn members that our economic position continues to be no less serious than it was last year. Details are given elsewhere in the Report of the Honorary Treasurer, but we must note the following points here.

In the first place attempts to increase income—even the devoted efforts of the Revenue Campaign Council—have met with very little success. Secondly, we note with regret that membership fell again during the year—partly, but not wholly, by reason of the increased rates of subscription which came into effect on 1st January, 1948. So far revenue from subscriptions has not fallen, but if membership continues to decline revenue must also eventually decline in spite of the higher rates. Thirdly, our Schools, Conferences and meetings during this year have on the whole failed to reach earlier levels either of attendance or profits —though their quality has in some cases been higher than ever before. To a large extent our disappointments are due to the present shortage of money among actual and potential members and supporters who have little to spare for donations, subscriptions and fees for schools and conferences. In addition the people who are or might be members of the Society are increasingly taken up with political and other tasks in the Labour Movement or on public bodies. Until we safely rely on sources of income we must reduce our expenditure. We have tried as far as possible to lower the costs of administration with the minimum loss of creative activity. So far the output of the Society has been maintained in terms both of quantity and of quality. Though there is little wrong with the performance or the reputation of the Society, it must be admitted that it will call for all the efforts of our members and our staff to sustain them in the period that lies ahead.

MEMBERSHIP

There was a decline in total membership during the year. There are various reasons for this: one was in the increase in subscription rates which came into effect in January, 1948, another the general feeling of " tightness " of money which has been noticed by practically every voluntary society. Notwithstanding the decline, however, the total revenue from subscriptions was higher than in the previous year.

	Membership Figures			*Change between*	
	at 31 *Mar.* 1948	*at* 31 *Mar.* 1949	*at* 30 *June* 1949	31 *Mar.* '48 *and* 31 *Mar.* '49	31 *Mar.* 49 *and* 30 *June* 49
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:					
Full Members	3641	2958	3002	– 806	46
Associates	384	261	263		
Student Members	141	198	214	48	18
Student Associates.. ..	15	6	8		
	4181	3423	3487	– 758	64
LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES:					
British F.S.	131	122	124	– 9	2
Paid up Membership of Local Societies (excluding National Membership) ..	3933	3314	*	– 619	*
	*—Figures not available.				
SUBSCRIBING BODIES:					
Fabian Societies overseas..	7	5	5	– 2	0
D.L.P.'s, Co-ops, T.U.s ..	95	95	105	0	10
Libraries and Misc. subscribing bodies	78	63	72	– 15	9
	180	163	182	– 17	19
BUREAUX MEMBERS:					
Colonial Bureau	434	313	313	– 121	0
International Bureau ..	244	163	169	– 81	6

GENERAL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members elected: Ian Mikardo, M.P. (Honorary Treasurer, unopposed), and (in order of ballot) Margaret Cole, H. J. Laski,* Lord Faringdon, Arthur Skeffington, M.P., John Parker, M.P., Michael Young, H. D. Hughes, M.P., Douglas Jay, M.P.,* Dorothy Archibald, Evan Durbin, M.P.,** Margaret Room, Austen Albu, M.P., Bosworth Monck.

Members Co-opted: G. D. H. Cole, Ritchie Calder, C. A. R. Crosland, John Diamond, M.P., Allan Flanders, L. A. Gossman, Jack Gray, Margaret Stewart, Mary Stewart, Eirene White, Leonard Woolf.

* Resigned during the year.

** Died during the year.

OFFICERS

In June, 1948, the E.C. reappointed H. J. Laski Chairman, John Parker Vice-Chairman and Margaret Cole Honorary Secretary. Ian Mikardo, M.P., had already been elected Treasurer at the Annual Ballot. H. J. Laski had accepted the Chairmanship only for a temporary period and in September he resigned in order to devote more of his time to writing. G. D. H. Cole agreed to accept again the Chairmanship which he had held 1939 to 1946.

COMMITTEES

Members of Committees appointed by the E.C. are listed in Appendix " A ".

STAFF

Among those who left during the year were Leo Jolley (Home Research Secretary 1947–8), Margaret Locke (Assistant Home Research Secretary 1947–8) and three other members of the staff who had given most efficient and loyal service to the Society—Dorothy Watson (Home Research Department 1941–8), Rene Saran (Colonial Bureau 1945–8) and Graham Martin (Bookshop 1941–9). Marjorie Nicholson (Assistant Secretary Colonial Bureau) left temporarily in March 1949 but fortunately will be returning in October. In June, 1948, W. D. Chapman became Secretary of the Home Research Department (with no Assistant Secretary) and must be congratulated on a very successful year's work.

Mrs. Hilda Selwyn Clarke was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Colonial Bureau in April 1949. There have been other changes leaving us at 30 June with a staff of 17 full-time and 6 part-time workers. We are glad to report that during this period the level of salaries and wages has been raised and that methods of Joint Consultation between the E.C. and the staff have been improved.

DELEGATES, ETC.

Labour Party Conference, 1948—A. W. Filson.

Labour Party Conference, 1949—C. A. R. Crosland.

London Labour Party Executive Committee—Arthur Skeffington, M.P.

Standing Joint Committee of Working Women's Organisations—Mrs. L'Estrange Malone.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. was held in the Caxton Hall on 26th June, 1948. The Annual Reports and the Accounts were adopted. Thanks were accorded to the Auditors, Messrs. Pegg, Robertson, Antrobus & Co., who were reappointed. The existing Rule 11 of the Society was replaced by the following new Rule:—

" Members are expected to subscribe annually to the funds of the Society in accordance with their means. The minimum annual subscription for members of the Society and for all subscribing bodies and associates shall be 20/- which shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 6d. or less issued by the Society. A subscription of 30/- or more shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of the *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 1/- or less. A subscription of 50/- or more shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of the *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 2/- or less. A subscription of 60/- shall in addition make the subscriber a member of the Colonial and International Bureaux receiving all publications to which Bureau members are entitled. Persons undergoing a full-time course of instruction and members of the ranks of H.M. Forces shall be allowed to be members for the period in which they are so engaged for an annual subscription of half the rate applicable in each category. The Executive Committee shall have the right in exceptional cases to decide that a pamphlet should be issued either to a greater or a lesser number of members than is specified in this rule. The Executive Committee shall have power to strike off the books any member who, after notice, fails to pay his subscription."

RULES AND BYLAWS

At the A.G.M., 1948, several members suggested that the Rules of the Society needed revision. The Executive Committee reviewed the Rules and asked members and Local Societies to make suggestions. After these suggestions had been considered the E.C. decided to submit seven amendments for the decision of members by Postal Ballot. Ballot Papers were issued in April, 1949. Each of the seven amendments was approved. The revised Rules, which are set out in Appendix B, took effect as from 1st July, 1949. One of the amendments authorised the Executive Committee to draw up By-Laws for the composition and procedure of the Committees, etc., of the Society. These are reprinted in Appendix " C ".

PUBLICATIONS

The Society can congratulate itself on the number and quality of the publications issued during the period April, 1948—June, 1949.

Home Research Department

Research Series:

124 *The Second Five Years* by Ian Mikardo, M.P. 6d.
125 *Management by Consent* by Research Group 1/-
129 *The National Coal Board* by G. D. H. Cole 2/-
134 *Miners and the Board* by Margaret Cole (Editor) 1/-

Tract Series:

273 *Labour's Second Term* by G. D. H. Cole 6d.

"*The Challenge of* 1950"

268 1—*More Socialisation—or Less*? by Charles Lang and Donald Chapman 6d
269 2—*Socialism and Farming* by F. W. Bateson 1/-
270 3—*Wages Policy*? by T. E. M. McKitterick 1/-
271 4—*Workers' Control*? by Eirene White 1/-
272 5—*Wholesaling and Retailing* by Henry Smith 1/-
274 6—*Next Steps in Education* by Joan Thompson 1/-

Local Government Series:

62 *Parish and District Councils* (Revised) by Michael Pease 6d.
218 *County Councils* (Revised) by H. Samuels 9d.
263 *Borough and Urban District Councils* (Revised) by A. E. Lauder 9d.

Journals

Fabian Quarterly (1 issue)
Fabian News (4 issues at 2d. and 10 issues at 3d.)

Colonial Bureau

Research Series:

126 *Self-Government and the Communal Problem* by Marjorie Nicholson 2/-
130 *The West Indies—Towards a New Dominion*? by H. V. Wiseman 2/-
131 *Commonsense and Colonial Development* by Rita Hinden 1/3

Colonial Controversy Series:

5 *Friendship and Empire* by J. B. Danquah

Booklets

The Fate of Italy's Colonies by J. C. Gray, L. Silberman an observer in Eritrea 2/6

Journal

Empire (10 issues) later renamed *Venture* (5 issues) 6d.

International Bureau

Research Series:

127 *Can Britain Recover*? by W. N. Warbey, M.P. 1/-
128 *Russian Economic Policy in Eastern Europe* by T. E. M. McKitterick 2/-
132 *Socialism as Internationalism* by Harold J. Laski 6d.
133 *Labour Politics in U.S.A.* by Mark Starr 2/6

Books

The Road to Recovery: *Autumn Lectures*, 1947 6/-
Fabian Essays: *Jubilee Edition* 12/6

BOOKSHOP

1948 was an even better year than 1947 with sales of £3,905 compared with £3,198. The first part of 1949 showed some fall-off in sales partly due to the general decline in the book trade and partly to interruption of work due to changes of staff. Mr. Graham Martin, the Bookshop Manager, who had returned to us from the forces, left us in April and Miss Jean Locke has been away ill. We ask members to make as much use as they can of the Bookshop, which could become an important source of revenue for the Society.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE

We are grateful to the following members and others who have helped us during the year with typing and general assistance either at their homes or in the office: Miss B. Cassel, Mrs. Kathleen Cox, Mr. E. P. Barnett, Mr. George Hazeltine, Mrs. Hennion, Mrs. Hine, Miss E. Hobson, Dr. A. Holzer, Mr. A. Hunt, Miss Trudy Maiman, Mrs. D. M. Mercer, Miss Betty Minister, Mrs. Travers Symons.

SCHOOLS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

SUMMER SCHOOLS

At Dartington there were two weeks. Hugh Jenkins and Hubert Humphries acted as Directors. Miss Lyndal Evans and Mrs. Frances Turnell as Secretaries. The lecturers included: Austen Albu, M.P., N. Barou, A. J. Champion, M.P., F. A. Cobb, M.P., Maurice Edelman, M.P., Henry Ezriel, H. Morris Jones, E. M. King, M.P., R. K. Neilson-Baxter and Arthur Skeffington, M.P.

At the Beatrice Webb House there were three weeks. D. Stark Murray, H. D. Hughes, M.P., and Denis Bell acted as Directors, and Mrs. Zena Parker and Mrs. Barbara Cawley as secretaries. The lecturers included: Ritchie Calder, Lord Chorley, C. A. R. Crosland, John Diamond, M.P., Evan Durbin, M.P., John Edwards, M.P., Jim Griffiths, M.P., Douglas Jay, M.P., Benn Levy, M.P., C. P. Mayhew, M.P., Ian Mikardo, M.P., Miss Dilys Powell, R. W. Sorensen, M.P., Stephen Taylor, M.P., Michael Young.

WEEK-END SCHOOLS

A Conference on the " Problems of Nationalised Industries " was held at Beatrice Webb House on 19–21 November, 1948. The Director was Hugh Jenkins and the lecturers Ian Mikardo, M.P., and Eirene White.

The New Year's School (on " Socialism and the Middle Classes) was held at Beatrice Webb House on 31 December, 1948—3 January, 1949. The Director was H. D. Hughes, M.P., and the lecturers Frank Hardie and Francis Williams.

The Easter School (on " Targets for 1950 ") held at Beatrice Webb House on 14—18 April, 1949. The Director was James Callaghan, M.P., and the lecturers Fenner Brockway, Ritchie Calder, C. A. R. Crosland and Henry Ezriel.

Other Conferences and Meetings arranged by Departments are dealt with in their sections of this Report.

AUTUMN LECTURES

These were held at the Conway Hall under the general title of " The Challenge of 1950 ". The programme was: Rt. Hon. Hugh Dalton, M.P., " The Challenge of 1950 ", Ian Mikardo, M.P., " Next Steps in Nationalisation ", John Diamond, M.P., " Public Control and Private Enterprise ", Lady Simon of Wythenshawe, " Charter for Women ", Professor H. J. Laski " Socialism as Internationalism ", Michael Young " Democracy and the Common Man ".

WOMEN'S GROUP

In July 1948 the Group held its first Annual Dinner since 1940. Miss Jennie Lee, M.P., spoke on " Is British Socialism too Conservative ? " and Miss E. Arnot Robertson on " What to look for in Films ".

Two meetings were held during the winter months—on " Should Wives have Wages ? " (Speaker: Mrs. Marjorie Nicholson) and " Women in India " (Speaker: Miss Kudmul Shanti Rangarao, formerly Principal of the Central College for Women, Nagpur and Head of W.A.C.S. (I) during the war). The 1949 A.G.M. was held at 16, Queen Anne's Gate on 27 June and Miss Harriet Cohen spoke on " What Life has Taught Me ". No meetings were held in the spring as most members of the Group were busy working in the Local Elections.

Mrs. Malone continues to represent the Society on the Standing Joint Committee of Working Women's Organisations and is a member of its Executive Committee.

HOME RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

GENERAL

The year has brought many changes. A reduction and an entire change in staff were accompanied by a reorganisation of the committee system which governs the Department's work. A single Committee—a Home Research Committee under the Chairmanship of H. D. Hughes, M.P.—is concerned with all research, instead of the former three; but arrangements have been made to secure the assistance of specialist advisers on particular kinds of problems.

RESEARCH

It has been possible to plan a large amount of work which is increasingly reaching members in published form. The Department was instructed to give prime attention to projects concerning the coming General Election. This it has done in two ways:—

Firstly, there has been a flow of pamphlets mainly on topics which form a background to the next General Election (the " Challenge of 1950 " series and others). As the list below shows they have covered the general nature of the Labour programme; policies for particular sectors of the economy (agriculture, distribution, etc.); social policy (education, holidays); such basic problems as wages policy and industrial democracy (on which topics more work is in progress). This list by no means covers the full field of work: at any one time some thirty or more studies are in various stages of preparation and, in fact, enough have been planned to provide publications well up to the period of the Election itself. All these publications have been very well received in the Labour movement and no such studies are available from any other source.

Secondly, assistance for the General Election has had a more direct form. The Department has helped to prepare reports for consideration by the Labour Party when it was drawing up " Labour Believes in Britain ". A major study of the Insurance Industry was prepared by Joan Thompson with the help of an expert group. Other documents submitted to the Labour Party included reports on Education, The State and Holidays (by Donald Chapman), a Housewives' Charter and a Policy for the Arts.

The satisfactory progress of plans for future publications has brought the Home Research Committee to a point where it can turn its attention increasingly towards discussions of basic socialist policy and thought. It is felt that experience of government and the putting into practice of the Movement's traditional immediate policies have made it necessary to re-examine philosophy in order to develop it further. Preparations are being made for what should be major reports for issue over the coming years.

PUBLICATIONS

The Department has been concerned with the handling of publications, their printing and publicity.

Fabian News has been edited in the Department and has had to take an entirely new function. *Fabian Quarterly* has disappeared under the economy cuts, but the *News* has been partly expanded in compensation. It now includes articles, book reviews, reading lists, etc., as well as news items. With a new format and improved layout it is capable of development into a monthly edition of the quarterly once the financial position allows. Publications issued are listed on page 4.

A major report on local government structure—" Regionalism " by Peter Self and a book by Professor Arthur Lewis, " Principles of Economic Planning " have been sent to press.

Evidence has been presented to the Resale Price Maintenance Committee.

ROUTINE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

This has included answering queries and other enquiries. The Society's library has been reorganised and its historical documents are being catalogued. Publicity for publications is being developed. In general, much work goes on behind the scenes in servicing research groups, etc., which are discussing many problems. Not all of their reports are published and some are used as private documents for a limited circulation.

COLONIAL BUREAU

The General work of the Bureau continued in 1948/9 on the lines already established. Activities may be classed in the three categories of *Publications and Research*; *Conferences and Meetings*; and *Political action*. A great deal of time is inevitably absorbed by maintaining contacts with friends in the Colonies, keeping in touch with events in all these scattered territories and in collaborating with M.P.s and other interested organisations.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Five pamphlets and a monthly journal have been published during the year (see page 4). A contract for the publication of the book *Local Government and the Colonies* was signed, and the book has been taken through the press; it is due to appear in the autumn.

Empire, the twelve-page journal of the Bureau, was re-named *Venture* in February, 1949. It is widely quoted, particularly abroad.

An Annual Report has been printed and circulated to members.

POLITICAL ACTION

Parliamentary work had continued actively. Close contacts have been maintained with Members of Parliament, with the Colonial Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party and with the Imperial Advisory Committee of the Labour Party. Communication with the Colonial Office on a great variety of subjects also continues. Subjects dealt with have included discontent in Uganda, the colour-discrimination on the Copperbelt, the disturbances in British Guiana, the activities of the Colonial Development Corporation, Monopolies in the Colonies and Civil Service salaries. The Bureau took a leading part in a deputation to the Commonwealth Relations Office in April, 1949, on the question of South West Africa.

Close contacts with the press have also been maintained.

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

A week-end Conference was held in September, 1948, at Pasture Wood on *Socialism and the Colonies*. The speakers included Professor Arthur Lewis, Mr. F. O. Ogunsheye (from Nigeria), Mr. H. Nkumbula (from N. Rhodesia), Marjorie Nicholson and Rita Hinden.

A meeting was held at the Mary Sumner Hall in February, 1949, when Mr. R. Sorensen, M.P., and Rita Hinden reported on their visit to Nigeria.

Because of the general slackening-off in attendance at public meetings, and the heavy burden of other work in which the Bureau is involved, it was decided to 'go slow' as regards further public meetings or conferences during the year.

VISIT TO NIGERIA

In January, 1949, the Secretary and Mr. R. W. Sorensen, M.P. (a member of the Bureau Advisory Committee) were invited by an African organisation to visit Nigeria and to address the Annual Conference of the Nigerian Youth Movement. The visit was generally accounted a success and was useful in creating new links with Nigerians. This was the first time that European guests had been invited to Africa by an African Political Party.

ORGANISATION AND MEMBERSHIP

During the year an agreement was reached between the Bureau and the Fabian Society under which the Society makes a first Annual Grant to the Bureau beyond which the Bureau has the responsibility of raising enough money to continue and if possible to expand, its activities.

Annual Subsidy from the Society. This was considered desirable because of the rather specialised nature of the Bureau's work which brought it the interest and support of Colonial specialists, and gave the Bureau opportunities for certain special earnings. The experiment is being tried for one year; up to date it is working satisfactorily. It in no way affects the relationship of the Bureau to the Society. The ultimate responsibility of the Fabian Executive for the working of this department continues as previously.

The special Membership of the Bureau declined during 1948. From a peak of 517 on 1st December, 1947, the figure fell to 299 on 1st February, 1949. The fall has, however, been arrested and on 30th June, 1949, the figure was 313. In

addition there are 970 members of the Society whose subscription makes them members of the Colonial Bureau.

One of the reasons for the fall was the increase in subscription rates (20/- instead of 10/6) which came into effect on 1st January, 1948. In spite of this fall, the revenue from members' subscriptions has increased.

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

GENERAL

The last year has been a difficult one. Since 1st January, 1949, the Bureau has tried to maintain a flow of both publications and meetings with only part-time staff. This has only been possible because Mildred Bamford has continued throughout the year to arrange meetings and conferences voluntarily. Apart from this staffing difficulty, there has been a sharp falling off of interest in Foreign Affairs, with the result that somewhat fewer copies of pamphlets are sold, and fewer people attend conferences and meetings.

PUBLICATIONS

Four pamphlets have been published in the period April, 1948, to June, 1949 (see page 4). The summer, 1948, issue of the *Fabian Quarterly* was devoted to *Western Union*, with articles by G. D. H. Cole, Denis Healey and Rita Hinden.

VISIT TO NORWAY

In April 1948, William Warbey, M.P., A. J. Champion, M.P., A. M. F. Palmer, M.P., and Anne Whyte visited Norway on an invitation from the Norwegian Labour Party. Their report on the visit is being printed in Oslo, and should be on sale shortly. It will be called *Modern Norway. A Study in Social Democracy.*

OVERSEAS SOCIALIST PRESS GROUP

This Group, which was formed in August 1947 under the auspices of the Bureau, has continued its meetings during this year. The regular weekly meetings with Socialist Journalist M.P.s have been very useful; and members of the Group have also had discussions with C. H. Hartwell (Publicity Department T.U.C.); Percy Cudlipp (Editor, *Daily Herald*); Morgan Phillips (Labour Party Secretary); Dr. Stark Murray (on the National Health Service); Denis Healey (Secretary, International Department, Labour Party, on the Vienna International Socialist Conference); and Victor Feather (Assistant Secretary, T.U.C., on Communism in the Trade Unions). Members of the Group have found these meetings very useful in supplying background information for their contributions on British Socialism to their various newspapers and journals.

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND RECEPTIONS

"*Western Union and European Recovery*": a Week-end Conference was held at the Beatrice Webb House in the spring of 1948. Speakers: Allan Flanders, Denis Healey, G. D. N. Worswick and Rita Hinden, with John Hynd, M.P., in the chair.

"*Britain and European Cooperation*": a London Week-end Conference was held at Caxton Hall in June 1948. Speakers: Sir Hubert Henderson, Thomas Balogh and Professor Mitrany, with W. N. Warbey, M.P., in the chair.

Meetings have been held on: *Italy*, speaker: Ruggero Orlando; Chairman: Marjorie Nicholson. *Norway*, speakers: A. J. Champion, M.P., A. M. F. Palmer, M.P., W. N. Warbey, M.P., and Anne Whyte; chairman: Ian Mikardo, M.P. "Can Democracy Afford a Free Press?", speaker: Ernest Davies, M.P.; chairman: Eirene White. *The American Election*, speaker: John Parker, M.P.; chairman: Margaret Cole. *Feet on the Ground*, speaker: Denis Healey; chairman: T. E. M. McKitterick. *Trade with Eastern Europe*, speaker: the Rt. Hon. Harold Wilson, M.P., President of the Board of Trade; chairman: Lord Faringdon. *European Recovery*: a series of three meetings:—*Brussels Pact and O.E.E.C.*, speaker: G. D. N. Worswick; chairman: Anne Whyte. *Germany and O.E.E.C.*, speaker: Heinrich Fraenkel; chairman: Ashley Bramall, M.P. And *France and O.E.E.C.*, speaker: William Pickles; chairman: John Hynd, M.P.

The following **Receptions** have been held. At Lord Faringdon's flat for the delegates to the *International Socialist Medical Conference* in June 1948. In July, for the leaders of the *German Social Democratic Party*, Franz Neumann, Frederich

Heine and Willi Eichler. John Hynd, M.P., received a party of *Austrian Socialists* visiting this country at the invitation of the London Labour Party in September, when Harold Laski spoke on "The British Social Revolution". In October, two Canadian Socialists, M. J. Coldwell, M.P. (Leader of the C.C.F. in the Canadian House of Commons) and the Hon. T. C. Douglas (Premier of Saskatchewan) and 50 other guests were received by Dr. Edith Summerskill, M.P., and Lord Faringdon.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership fell from 224 at 31st March, 1948, to 169 at 30th June, 1949. One reason was the increase in subscription rates (15/- instead of 7/6) which came into effect on 1st January, 1948. In spite of this fall the revenue from members' subscriptions has increased. In addition there are 970 members of the Society whose subscription makes them members of the Bureau.

LOCAL SOCIETIES

ORGANISATION OF LOCAL SOCIETIES

Staffing difficulties have meant that there has been a great decrease in the advice and assistance given by the office to Local Societies, though five issues of the "Directive" have been prepared. Regional and Area officers have however been most generous, both of their time and money, in helping new and weak Societies, and in keeping us informed of local developments. Thirteen Regional and Area Committees have continued their excellent work.

In October, 1948, a successful delegate conference to discuss the work and organisation of Local Societies was held at Moreton Paddox, and was attended by representatives from all regions and areas except Northern and Essex, and from Brighton F.S. The Director was Arthur Skeffington, M.P., and the speakers Edith Moore, Margaret Cole and Michael Young. During the conference the resolution by the West Midland Regional Committee, deferred from the Annual General Meeting, on the relations between Local Societies and the National Society was considered. General agreement was reached that one way of maintaining contact with the provincial membership of the Society was for members of the E.C. to attend Annual Meetings of the Regions. Members, both national and local, who cannot come to London for the A.G.M. would thus have an opportunity of learning at first hand more about the problems facing the National Society.

STATISTICS

The total number of Societies at 3rd June, 1949, was 122 compared with 131 last year. The individual membership upon which affiliation fees have been paid up to March of this year is 3,267 compared with 3,932 last year. The decline has three causes: (*a*) affiliation fees from 16 Societies were still outstanding at the end of the financial year; (*b*) affiliation fees from 15 Societies formed between January and April, 1949, took effect from 1st April, 1949, whereas in previous years they would have taken effect from the date of payment; (*c*) 12 Societies have notified us that they have ceased to hold meetings during the year and we have in addition deleted three Societies.

During the year 29 Societies paid affiliation fees at more than the shilling rate and 18 made donations. The money raised by the payment of more than the minimum affiliation fee and by donations amounted to £124 7s. 10d. for 1948/9, compared with £214 1s. 9d. for 1947/8.

A list of Addresses is given in Appendix "D".

ACTIVITIES

Regional and Area Committees have organised day schools and week-end conferences, while individual Societies have chiefly concentrated on meetings. Notices of many of these functions as well as reports of the work being done have appeared in *Fabian News*.

During the autumn of 1948 many Local Societies discussed a Questionnaire on nationalisation, issued by the Society, and 39 Societies sent in summaries of their discussions. A report was prepared by Mary Stewart, with the help of Peggy Crane, of the conclusions reached by the Societies, and this, together with the text of a

report submitted by one Society, Central London, was sent to the Labour Party Research Department. As a result of the success of this experiment, two further questionnaires are in hand for 1949/50.

Local Societies have engaged in various types of research work. During the past year Birmingham F.S. prepared a report on " Wages Policy " and the London Region collected a team of workers who helped the London Labour Party in summarising information about the achievements of Labour Borough Councils.

In each month during the year more than 200 meetings have been arranged by individual societies.

GENERAL

A conference on " Winning the Municipal Election " was held at Beatrice Webb House in January, 1949, and organised in co-operation with the London Labour Party. The Director was Arthur Skeffington, M.P., and the speakers Donald Bruce, M.P., J. W. Raisin, J. Cattermole, and H. J. Harvey.

ROLE OF LOCAL SOCIETIES

At a recent meeting the Executive Committee discussed the very useful contribution which Local Societies are making to the Labour Movement. They provide a forum for policy discussions which often find no place in Labour Party activities and draw into those discussions many potential recruits who for one reason or another have not yet joined the Party. In addition Local Societies can secure a far wider distribution of the Society's publications among the rank and file of the movement.

HELP GIVEN BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We should like to conclude by thanking most sincerely the Officers of Regional Committees and local Societies for their hard and continuous work. We know only too well the demands Fabian Society work makes on their time and pockets and we should like to record our appreciation.

OBITUARY

With the death of Evan Durbin at the age of 42 the Society lost a rare personality whose intellect and character had marked him out for a position of great authority in his generation. He had been for many years a leading member of the Executive Committee and the guiding spirit of the Home Research Department. Those who knew him have felt his death as a deep personal loss. We also learnt with great regret of the deaths of Margaret Wrong, an active member of the Colonial Bureau Advisory Committee, Athelstan Rendell, a former Liberal M.P., Hubert Beaumont, M.P., Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, a founder of the Central Labour College in 1909 and a former Hutchinson Trust Lecturer for the Society and such old friends as the Rev. James Barr, Edward Cadbury and Lord Dukeston. Mr. Rendall left a legacy to the Society.

CONCLUSION

The facts chronicled in the foregoing pages bear out, we believe, the claim made in the Introduction—that the Society is right to be proud of the volume and quality of the work which it has done and is doing. It is, however, perfectly clear that this record cannot be kept up, still less improved as it ought to be improved, unless we can find a way of holding more effectively our present membership and of recruiting new membership and new money. The E.C. is making special efforts to raise additional revenue both from Labour organisations and from individuals, but whatever E.C. members or officers may be able to do, the fact remains that, as Sidney Webb said long ago, the achievement of the Fabian Society is the work of individual Fabians. We therefore ask each existing member to make a special

effort in the coming year to recruit at least one new member; to attend and to persuade others to attend our Schools, Conferences and Meetings; to read, sell and use our publications; and, if ever possible—to increase their subscriptions. There are many ways in which the Fabian Society can further the development of socialism in the critical years ahead; without more funds we can only half fulfil our tasks.

G. D. H. COLE (*Chairman*)
IAN MIKARDO (*Hon. Treasurer*)
JOHN PARKER (*Vice-Chairman*)
MARGARET COLE (*Hon. Secretary*)
ANDREW FILSON (*General Secretary*)

AUSTEN ALBU
DOROTHY ARCHIBALD
N. BAROU
C. A. R. CROSLAND
RITCHIE CALDER
JOHN DIAMOND
FARINGDON
ALLAN FLANDERS
JACK GRAY
L. A. GOSSMAN
H. D. HUGHES
BOSWORTH MONCK
MARGARET ROOM
ARTHUR SKEFFINGTON
MARY STEWART
MARGARET STEWART
LEONARD WOOLF
EIRENE WHITE
MICHAEL YOUNG

REPORT OF THE HON. TREASURER

As the accounts show, the period 1st April, 1948, to 30th June, 1949, has again been a bad one from the point of view of excess of expenditure over income. This is in spite of the system of budgetary control which was operated during that period. That system has proved highly successful in maintaining control over expenditure, and it will be observed from the revenue account that there has been a notable reduction in the rate of expenditure on almost every item. The continuation of the Society's difficult financial position has resulted from a great reduction in the income from donations. This is largely the result of the Government's policy of progressive taxation of higher incomes, which has deprived us of the support of most of the former donors of largish amounts. It is perhaps some consolation for our difficulties that they are caused by the successful operation by the Government of fiscal policies which the Society has advocated for many years. Special and general donations together dropped from £3,021 in the twelve months of 1947–48 to £1,256 in the fifteen months of 1948–49, i.e., to a rate of £1,001 per annum, a reduction of over £2,000 per annum, or 66 per cent.

To meet this situation the Executive Committee is taking steps (*a*) to reduce expenditure still further, and (*b*) to tap new sources of income, particularly among the Trade Union Movement, which is the only source to which we can look for donations in the place of the sources which we have now lost.

Two administrative changes made during the year are (i) the separation out of the finances of the Colonial Bureau, which now receives a fixed annual grant from the Society and manages its own affairs, and (ii) the transfer of the Society's banking business to the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.

I take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude for valuable assistance received during the year to (i) Mr. Robertson of Messrs. Pegg, Robertson, Antrobus & Co., the Society's accountants, (ii) Roy Harris, the Society's late accountant, who has kindly volunteered since leaving the Society's employ to assist with the preparation of the quarterly budgets, (iii) Lou Gossman, who has volunteered to help fill the gap until the appointment of a new accountant, and (iv) many members of the Society's staff who, in financial as in other matters, show a degree of loyalty to the Society beyond the formal call of duty.

IAN MIKARDO.

BALANCE SHEET AS

1948	LIABILITIES	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	SUNDRY FUNDS:		
2,500	Bernard Shaw Gift Fund	2,500 0 0	
1,000	Edwards Bequest Fund	1,000 0 0	
19	Scholarship Fund	12 9 0	
32	Women's Group Fund	30 8 4	
38	L.S.C. Development Fund	85 15 4	
494	Staff Savings Fund	300 9 3	
4,083			3,929 1 11
	SUNDRY CREDITORS:		
857	Trade	722 2 5	
161	Sundries	102 4 9	
255	Expenses Accrued	208 19 11	
			1,033 7 1
301	AMOUNTS RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF FUNCTIONS IN PROGRESS		1,104 7 6
2,340	BANK OVERDRAFT		3,713 10 6
£7,997			£9,780 7 0

We have examined the accounts of the FABIAN SOCIETY for the period ended and explanations we have required. We certify that the Balance Sheet above set forth is affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given us and as

PEGG, ROBERTSON, ANTROBUS & CO.,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS,
AUDITORS.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE 15

1948	EXPENDITURE	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	TO ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:		
7,524	Salaries and Allowances	8,057 3 3	
156	State Insurance	231 2 6	
440	Pensions	550 0 0	
61	Travel and Entertainment	137 5 4	
488	General Office Expenses	376 17 5	
76	Grants and Subscriptions Payable	138 19 7	
1,487	General Stationery	1,673 19 9	
286	Telephone	150 16 8	
782	Postages	918 9 1	
			12,234 13 7
	TO ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES:		
457	Rent, Rates, Light and Heat, etc.	573 1 2	
225	Maintenance	263 10 6	
66	Repairs	172 1 3	
			1,008 12 11
	TO PUBLICATIONS:		
893	Free Issues to Members	1,020 14 7	
610	*Fabian Quarterly* and *Fabian News*	616 15 3	
			1,637 9 10
	TO OTHER EXPENSES:		
79	Interest on Overdraft	159 3 6	
80	Affiliation Fees	144 14 0	
42	Royalties Paid	11 1 1	
36	Miscellaneous	56 17 9	
			371 16 4
£13,788			£15,252 12 8

T 30th JUNE, 1949

ASSETS

1948		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	FIXED ASSETS:		
2,500	Freehold Property	2,500 0 0	
750	Investments	313 5 0	
125	Furniture	125 0 0	
85	Library	85 0 0	
			3,023 5 0
3,460			
	CURRENT ASSETS:		
	STOCKS:		
1,254	Bookshop	1,575 7 8	
200	Stationery	325 0 0	
			1,900 7 8
	SUNDRY DEBTORS:		
134	Trade	124 15 6	
321	Bookshop	533 7 2	
441	Sundries	99 8 5	
454	Payments in Advance	223 17 9	
			981 8 10
111	CASH IN HAND		30 7 1
	REVENUE ACCOUNT:		
228	Balance at 1st April, 1948	1,621 19 10	
1,394	*Add*:—Excess of Expenditure over Income for period 1st April, 1948, to 30th June, 1949	2,222 18 7	
			3,844 18 5
£7,997			£9,780 7 0

30th June, 1949, with the books and vouchers. We have obtained all the information properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Society's shown by the Society's books.

Arundel House, Arundel Street,
Strand, LONDON W.C.2.
29th September, 1949.

MONTHS ENDING 30th JUNE, 1949

RECEIPTS

1948		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6,190	By Subscriptions		7,494 6 2
	,, DONATIONS:		
950	Special	400 0 0	
2,071	General	855 19 9	
1,280	D.S.T.	1,819 3 0	
216	L.S.C.	220 7 2	
			3,295 9 11
255	,, Royalties Received		241 12 10
64	,, Advertising		119 7 10
331	,, Bookshop..		1,081 2 7
989	,, Functions		678 14 7
	,, OTHER RECEIPTS:		
48	Interest on Investments	0 0 0	
	L.S.C. Directive	6 1 2	
	Recovery (National Savings)	112 19 0	
			119 0 2
1,394	,, Balance, being Excess of Expenditure over Income for the period 1st April, 1948, to 30th June, 1949		2,222 18 7
£13,788			£15,252 12 8

APPENDIX A

MEMBERS OF MAIN COMMITTEES

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Ian Mikardo, M.P. (*Chairman*), Austen Albu, M.P., N. Barou, Margaret Cole. L. A. Gossman, H. D. Hughes, M.P., H. Laski,* John Parker, M.P., Arthur Skeffington. M.P.

HOME RESEARCH COMMITTEE

H. D. Hughes, M.P. (*Chairman*), Austen Albu, M.P., Dorothy Archibald, N. Barou. Margaret Cole, Ritchie Calder, Lord Chorley, C. A. R. Crosland, J. Diamond, M.P., Allen Flanders, Jack Gray, Ray Goodman, L. A. Gossman, Frank Hardie, Douglas Jay, M.P., J. E. McColl, John Parker, M.P., Professor W. A. Robson, Peter Self, Margaret Stewart, Eirene White, Michael Young.

COLONIAL BUREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

J. F. Horrabin (*Chairman*), Leonard Barnes, H. N. Brailsford, Dr. R. B. Wellesley Cole, Olive R. Crutchley, Andrew Dalgleish,* F. W. Dalley, C. W. Dumpleton, M.P., Lord Faringdon, Dr. Fortes, C. W. W. Greenidge, H. D. Hughes, M.P., Professor Julian Huxley, John Hynd, M.P., Professor W. Arthur Lewis, Dr. Kenneth Little, John Rankin, M.P., Professor T. S. Simey,* F. W. Skinnard, M.P., R. W. Sorensen, M.P., Leonard Woolf, Margaret Wrong.**

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Leonard Woolf (*Chairman*), Lord Faringdon (*Vice-Chairman*), Austen Albu, M.P., Mildred Bamford, Margaret Cole, R. H. S. Crossman, M.P., Ernest Davies, M.P., Maurice Edelman, M.P., W. N. Ewer, Allan Flanders, W. Arnold Forster,* Helen Grant, Denis Healey, Rita Hinden, John Hynd, M.P., Kurt Martin, T. E. M. McKitterick, W. N. Warbey, M.P., Dorothy Woodman.

LOCAL SOCIETIES COMMITTEE

Arthur Skeffington, M.P. (*Chairman*), D. Alger, Dr. N. Barou, Margaret Cole. H. D. Hughes, M.P., H. Hynd, M.P., J. P. M. Millar, Edith Moore, J. Pinkerton, J. W. Raisin, Margaret Room, Ruby Seaton, Mary Stewart, S. Swingler, M.P.

Regional and Area Members: A. Campbell,* L. James (London), Marjorie Brett (Yorkshire), J. Johnson (West Midlands), Gwyneth Morgan, J.P. (Wales), Muriel Winstanley (North West), Sybil Prinsky (Northern), R. A. Raffan (Scotland), Cyril Speller (Hampshire and Dorset), A. Hughes,* Joyce Worley (Middlesex), G. R. Sargeant (South West), L. Wharrad,* W. S. Copp (Kent), Eve Saville (Essex), L. Hawkins,* J. W. Vernon (Surrey).

SCHOOLS AND SOCIALS COMMITTEE

Margaret Room (*Chairman*), G. R. Blanco White, K.C., Margaret Cole, Lyndal Evans,* Stuart Green, Hugh Jenkins, Ingwald Kraft, Herbert Lewin, Dr. D. S. Murray, John Parker, M.P., Zena Parker, N. Pease,* Phyllis Smith, George Thomas, Margaret Yates. *Ex officio* as Summer School Directors: D. Archibald, Duncan Smith, Ian Mikardo, M.P., H. D. Hughes, M.P.

WOMEN'S GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs. L'Estrange Malone (*Chairman*), Mrs. Molly Bolton, Miss Margaret Bowie, Mrs. Margaret Cole, Mrs. Beryl Hughes, Miss Agnes Murray, Mrs. Beatrice Pollard, Miss Mary Sutherland, Mrs. Joan Thompson, Mrs. Dorothy Watson, Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas (*Secretary*).

* Resigned during the year. ** Died during the year.

APPENDIX B

RULES of the FABIAN SOCIETY

As Amended by the Postal Ballot held in April, 1949.

1. The name of the Society shall be the Fabian Society.

2. The Society consists of Socialists. It therefore aims at the establishment of a society in which equality of opportunity will be assured and the economic power and privileges of individuals and classes abolished through the collective ownership and democratic control of the economic resources of the community. It seeks to secure these ends by the methods of political democracy.

The Society, believing in equal citizenship in the fullest sense, is open to persons irrespective of sex, race or creed, who commit themselves to its aims and purposes and undertake to promote its work.

The Society shall be affiliated to the Labour Party. Its activities shall be the furtherance of socialism and the education of the public on socialist lines, by the holding of meetings, lectures, discussion groups, conferences and summer schools, the promotion of research into political, economic and social problems, national and international, the publication of books, pamphlets and periodicals, and by any other appropriate methods.

3. The Society as a whole shall have no collective policy beyond what is implied in Rule 2; its research shall be free and objective in its methods.

No resolution of a political character expressing an opinion or calling for action, other than in relation to the running of the Society itself, shall be put forward in the name of the Society. Delegates to conferences of the Labour Party, or to any other conference, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee without any mandatory instructions.

4. Full Membership of the Society shall be open to those who are willing to accept the Rules and By-Laws of the Society. The acceptance of candidates is subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may, in special cases, elect Honorary Members of the Society.

Those who do not desire, or are ineligible for, full membership of the Society may become Associates, if in general sympathy with the objects of the Society. The acceptance of candidates is subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee. Associates shall have the same rights as full members in regard to the publications, schools, conferences and lecture meetings of the Society, but shall have no voting rights, shall not be eligible for membership of the Executive Committee and shall not be entitled to attend Annual and Special General Meetings of the Society. Federations of Labour Parties, Borough, Divisional and Local Labour Parties, Trade Unions and their branches, Co-operative organisations and other bodies may become subscribing bodies to the Society. The acceptance of candidates is subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee.

5. The Society shall be governed by an Annual Meeting of members to be held at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee. Members shall be invited to submit Resolutions. The Resolutions shall be circulated and the members invited to submit Amendments. The full Agenda, including the Resolutions and the Amendments thereto, together with copies of the Annual Report, shall be circulated not less than a fortnight before the meeting. The Chairman of the meeting shall have the right to accept emergency Resolutions and Amendments with the consent of the meeting. The Executive Committee shall announce the dates by which Resolutions and Amendments must be received. All National members, fully paid up members of recognised Local Societies and the representative from each subscribing body shall have the right to attend and vote at the meetings.

6. The Executive Committee may at any time call a Special General Meeting to discuss any business of the Society.

If 5 per cent. of all members entitled to vote in the election of the Executive Committee send to the General Secretary in writing a request for a Special General Meeting, the Executive Committee shall appoint for the meeting the earliest convenient date thereafter and shall circulate any Resolutions submitted.

7. The Executive Committee may, and on a requisition signed by not less than 5 per cent. of all members entitled to vote in the election of the Executive Committee shall, refer any question to the decision by Postal Ballot of all the members entitled to vote in the election of the Executive Committee.

8. The Rules may be revised by an Annual Meeting or by a Special General Meeting, provided the proposals have been circulated 14 days before the meeting, or by a Postal Ballot.

Any alterations of or addition to Rules 1—6 shall be adopted only if supported by not less than three-quarters of the members present and voting at the Annual or Special General Meeting or by a simple majority of those voting in a Postal Ballot.

9. The Executive Committee, including Officers, shall consist of not more than 24 members, of whom the Hon. Treasurer and 17 other members shall be elected as provided in Rule 10 following. The Executive Committee shall have the right to co-opt additional members and to fill casual vacancies provided that the membership of the Committee does not at any time exceed 24 in number. The Executive Committee shall elect such officers for the year as it thinks necessary. Five members shall be a quorum for the Executive Committee. Any member absent from four consecutive meetings of the Committee or its standing sub-committees without obtaining leave of absence shall be deemed, upon a resolution to that effect being passed by the Executive Committee, to have vacated his seat on the Committee or sub-committee.

10. Before the Annual Meeting, the Society shall elect by ballot an Hon. Treasurer and 17 other members of the Executive Committee to hold office for one year. Nominations for these shall be invited from national members and fully paid up members of Local Societies whose names have been received at the Central Office one month before voting papers are sent out. All ballot papers must be returned within 28 days of issue. Scrutineers shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, whose duty it shall be to open the ballot box, to count the votes, and to certify to the General Secretary the results. In the event of a tie the Chairman of the Society shall have the casting vote. All members of Local Societies whose names have been received at the Central Office shall be entitled to vote in the Annual Postal Ballot for the election of the Executive Committee. The new Executive Committee shall come into office immediately after the Annual Meeting.

11. The Executive Committee shall conduct the general business of the Society, appoint such paid officers and staff as it deems necessary, create such sub-committees and groups as are considered desirable from time to time, sanction publications and appoint all delegates to represent the Society.

The Executive Committee shall, subject to the Rules of the Society, have the power to make and revise By-Laws for the composition and procedure of Committees, Bureaux, Groups, Local Societies (and their Regional or other Committees) and other organs of the Society. Such By-Laws shall be published in *Fabian News* and shall come into force as determined by the Executive Committee, but may be amended or annulled by a resolution at an Annual or Special General Meeting of the Society.

Subject to the decision of the Annual or any Special Meeting, the Executive Committee shall have full control over the affairs of the Society.

12. No book, pamphlet or tract submitted to the Society shall be published unless approved as of a suitable standard according to rules made by the Executive Committee. All publications sponsored by the Society shall bear a clear indication that they do not commit the Society, but only those responsible for preparing them.

13. Members are expected to subscribe annually to the funds of the Society in accordance with their means. The minimum annual subscription for members of the Society and for all subscribing bodies and associates shall be 20/- which shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 6d. or less issued by the Society. A subscription of 30/- or more shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of the *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 1/- or less. A subscription of 50/- or more shall entitle the subscriber to receive a copy of the *Fabian News* and all pamphlets priced 2/- or less. A subscription of 60/- shall in addition make the subscriber a member of the Colonial and International Bureaux receiving all publications to which Bureau members are entitled. Persons undergoing a full-time course of instruction and members of the ranks of H.M. Forces shall be allowed to be members for the period in which they are so engaged for an annual subscription of half the rate applicable in each category. The Executive Committee shall have the right in exceptional cases to decide that a pamphlet should be issued either to a greater or a lesser number of members than is specified in this rule. The Executive Committee shall have power to strike off the books any member who, after notice, fails to pay his subscription.

14. The Executive Committee shall have the power to recognise a Local Society and to approve its Rules and to make By-Laws for the regulation of such societies.

A fee of 1/- per year per member shall be paid by a Local Society to the National Society. The minimum payment shall be 20/-.

15. Any question as to the interpretation of these Rules shall be settled by the Executive Committee subject to appeal to a meeting of members qualified to effect an alteration of rules.

APPENDIX C

BY-LAWS

The Executive Committee has drawn up the following By-Laws which will come into force on 1st July, 1949:

1. **Executive Committee**

No person may be elected or co-opted to the Executive Committee unless he or she is a full member of the Society eligible for individual membership of the Labour Party.

2. **Finance and General Purposes Committee**

The Executive shall appoint a Finance and General Purposes Committee consisting of not less than five of its members, including the Honorary Treasurer as Chairman. The Finance and General Purposes Committee shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the finances and general administration of the Society and shall have power to act for the Executive Committee in between meetings of the Executive Committee.

3. **Schools Committee**

The Executive Committee shall appoint a Schools Committee which, subject to the general control of the Executive Committee, shall organise Summer and other schools and conferences on behalf of the Society. The Schools Committee shall be empowered to reject any applications for admission to any school or conference without requiring the sanction of the Executive Committee or giving reasons for its decisions.

4. **Local Societies**

(*a*) The Executive Committee shall have the power to recognise a Local Society which has a minimum of 10 members qualified under Rule 4 and has submitted its rules for approval.

(*b*) The Rules of a Local Society shall conform to the rules, by-laws and regulations of the Society and shall ensure that full membership is limited to those eligible under Rule 4; that Associates shall have no voting rights and shall not hold office or be elected to the governing committee of the Local Society; and that the Local Society shall have no collective policy and shall put forward no resolutions of a political character. No delegate shall be given instructions which would commit the Society to a collective policy.

(*c*) No member shall be qualified to hold office in, or to serve on the Executive Committee of a Local Society, unless he or she is a full member of the Local Society eligible for individual membership of the Labour Party.

(*d*) A fee of 1/- per year per member shall be paid by a Local Society to the National Society. The minimum annual payment shall be 20/-.

(*e*) The minimum annual payment for membership of a Local Society shall be 5/-.

(*f*) After the Inaugural Meeting, at which a resolution shall be passed by a two-thirds majority setting up a Society, it shall send to the National Society the minimum fee of 20/- plus 1/- affiliation fee for each member over the first 20 together with its proposed constitution. Recognition shall not be given to the Local Society until its constitution has been approved by the E.C. or its appointed sub-committee.

(*g*) The Secretary of every Local Society shall complete the annual return circulated by the National Society and shall supply during the year such other reports of its activities as the National Society may require.

(*h*) Members of Local Societies who are not also National members shall, at the discretion of the E.C., have the right to attend national activities at special rates.

(*i*) The Executive Committee shall have the power to set up such regional or other groupings of Local Societies as it may from time to time determine.

(*j*) In the event of a Local Society failing to pay its dues or behaving in a manner contrary to the rules or principles of the Society, the Executive Committee shall have the power to withdraw or suspend recognition subject to the right of the local Society to appeal to the Annual General Meeting.

5. **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the last Saturday in November or on the nearest convenient date. In the July and September issues of *Fabian News*, the E.C. shall invite members to send in resolutions before 10th September. In the October issue of *Fabian News* it shall publish the Resolutions submitted and invite members to send in Amendments before 10th October. In the November issue of *Fabian News* it shall announce the date, time, place and agenda of the Annual General Meeting, including the text of the Resolutions and Amendments submitted. It shall circulate copies of the Annual Report with the November issue of the *Fabian News*.

6. **Women's Group**

Membership of the Fabian Women's Group shall be open to all women who are national members of the Fabian Society. Associateship shall be open to all women who are in sympathy with the aims of the Society, provided that no person may be an Associate of the Group for more than one year unless she becomes an Associate of the Fabian Society. The Women's Group shall fix its own subscription and shall submit reports of its activities to the Executive Committee, which shall have authority to make resolutions for the conduct of the Group.

HONORARY SECRETARIES AND CONVENERS OF LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES AND GROUPS

ABERDEEN: Mr. R. A. Raffan, 15, Belmont Street, Aberdeen.
ACCRINGTON: Mr. W. E. Barratt, Labour Hall, Blackburn Road, Accrington.
ASHFORD: Mr. W. S. Copp, 155, Hythe Road, Ashford, Kent.
BARKING: Mr. E. A. Barnard, 111, Wakering Road, Barking, Essex.
BARNET: Mr. Vivian Piddington, 28, Hadley Road, New Barnet, Herts.
BARNSLEY: Mr. Harry Dancer, 9, Vernon Street, North, Barnsley, Yorks.
BARRY: Miss M. Lougher, 261, Gladstone Road, Barry, Glam.
BATH: Mr. R. Watterson, 2, Darlington Place, Bath.
BAYSWATER: Mr. B. J. Green, 32, Craven Hill Gardens, W.2.
BEDFORD: Mrs. Mary Mettam, 55, Bushmead Avenue, Bedford.
BELFAST: Mrs. J. W. Boyle, 4. Malone Park, Belfast.
BEDWELLTY: Mr. Caradog Williams, Cartref Bungalow, Trethomas, Mon.
BIRMINGHAM: Mr. D. W. Lawson, 70, Braemar Road, Olton, Birmingham.
BISHOPS STORTFORD: Mr. Scarff, 17, Park Lane, Bishops Stortford.
BLACKBURN: Mr. A. Taylor, " Glenetta ", Parsonage Road, Wilpshire, Blackburn.
BLACKPOOL: Mr. John S. Whitehouse, 106, Warbreck Drive, Blackpool, N.
BOLTON: Mr. W. R. Holtham, 8, Tenby Avenue, Bolton.
BOURNEMOUTH: Mr. Cyril Speller, 687, Wimborne Road, Winton, Bournemouth.
BRADFORD: Mr. W. V. Titherington, 32, High House Avenue, Bolton, Bradford.
BRAINTREE: Mr. T. C. Brown, 34, Railway Street, Braintree, Essex.
BRIGHTON: Mrs. H. Sims, 38, St. Keyna Avenue, Hove, Sussex.
BRISTOL: Mr. C. J. Mogford, 13, Park Grove, Westbury Park, Bristol, 6.
BROMLEY & BECKENHAM: Miss M. Pease, 185a, Widmore Road, Bromley, Kent.
BURNLEY & DISTRICT: Mr. V. Lord, 39, Middlesex Avenue, Burnley.
CAMBRIDGE: Mr. C. B. Winsten, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.
CANTERBURY: Mr. W. Thomas, Hardacre Farm, Preston, Nr. Canterbury.
CARDIFF: Miss G. Morgan, J.P., 27, Morlais Street, Roath Park, Cardiff.
CARLISLE: Mr. Thomas L. MacDonald, 12, Norfolk Road, Carlisle.
CENTRAL LONDON: Miss Alison, Lough, 14, Kingston Road, New Malden, Surrey.
CHELTENHAM: Mr. P. Noel-Hanson, 4, Imperial Square, Cheltenham.
CHEPSTOW: Mrs. M. Collins, Moat House, Chepstow, Mon.
CHESTERFIELD: Mr. D. Webster, Labour Party Office, 19, Broad Pavement, Chesterfield,
COLCHESTER: Mr. Basil J. Loven, 5, Granville Road, Colchester, Essex.
COVENTRY: Miss Marie Ross, 90, Whoberley Avenue, Coventry.
CROSBY: Miss E. Murray, 32, College Road, Crosby Liverpool, 23.
CROYDON: Mr. R. Ditchfield, 31, Kitchener Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
DARLINGTON: Miss G. Stewart, " Seaford," Thornfield Road, Darlington.
DARTFORD: Mr. J. W. McGibbon, 23, Swaisland Road, Dartford.
DERBY: Mr. E. Milner, 234, Osmaston Park Road, Derby.
DORKING: Miss F. A. F. Livingstone, M.A., Holmbury St. Mary, Nr. Dorking.
DUBLIN UNIVERSITY: Mr. P. O'Higgins, 36, Trinity College, Dublin.
DULWICH: Dr. M. K. Le Vay, 35, Alleyn Park, Dulwich, S.E.21.
DUNDEE: Mr. R. L. Holway, 4, Elgin Street, Dundee.
DURHAM: Mrs. T. Kennedy, 4, Owengate, Durham.
EALING & DISTRICT: Mr. A. J. Blann, 18, Home Close, Northolt, Middlesex.
EASTBOURNE: Mrs. Gwendoline Donner, 58, Avard Crescent, Eastbourne.
EAST HAM NORTH: Mr. Noel Healy, 1, St. Winifrides Avenue, Manor Park, E.12.
EDINBURGH: Miss M. A. MacKenzie, 8, Hailes Avenue, Edinburgh.
EPSOM: Mr. Arnold Marsh, 94, Manor Green Road, Epsom, Surrey.
FOREST HILL & SYDENHAM: Miss E. H. Lovell, 6, Lessing Street, S.E.23.
FROME: Mrs. M. Vincent, 26, Vallis Road, Frome, Somerset.
FULHAM & HAMMERSMITH: Miss B. Giddings, 40, St. Dunstan's Road, Barons Court, W.6.
GLASGOW: Mrs. Audrey Grieve, 33, Melville Street, Glasgow, S.1.
GREENOCK: Mr. A. Finnie, 26, Mearns Street, Greenock.
GUILDFORD: Mrs. Elizabeth Rackham, Keston, Hawthorn Way, Burpham, Guildford.
HARROGATE: Mr. W. Wright, 20, Grove Park Terrace, Harrogate.
HARROW: Mr. John Green, 19, Woodhill Crescent, Kenton, Harrow.
HARTLEPOOLS: Miss Sybil Prinsky, 51, The Oval, West Hartlepool.
HASLEMERE: Mr. John Boniface, Pinewood, Haslemere, Surrey.
HULL: Mr. F. Weldon, 65, Pearson Park, Hull.
HYDE: Mr. D. A. Norwood, 26, Woodend Lane, Hyde, Cheshire.
ILFORD: Mr. L. Rudoff, 15, Endsleigh Gardens, Ilford, Essex.
IPSWICH: Mr. D. A. Longman, 21, Abbot Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.
KENSINGTON: Miss A. Perriam, Cleverly House, 40, Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.
KILMARNOCK: Miss N. Deans, 107, Irvine Road, Kilmarnock.
KING'S LYNN: Mr. A. J. Barker, 4, Queen Mary Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

KINGSTON: Mr. Dennis Gordon, 14, Matham Road, East Molesey, Surrey.
LEE: Mr. F. J. Webb, 56, Brockhill Road, S.E.18.
LEEDS: Miss Marjorie Brett, 11, Helmsley Drive, Leeds, 6.
LEICESTER: Mr. T. H. Bartlett, 60, Fosse Road South, Leicester.
LEIGH: Mr. Eric Whiteside, 12, Widdows Street, Leigh, Lancs.
LEWES: Mrs. Mary Harman, 1, Castle Rise, Lewes, Sussex.
LUTON: Mrs. G. M. Theodorson, 27, Kingsley Road, Luton.
MAIDSTONE: Mr. A. J. Cane, 24, Kingsley Road, Maidstone.
MANCHESTER: Mr. Ian Million, 8, Hereford Drive, Prestwich, Nr. Manchester.
MERSEYSIDE: Mr. F. A. Fitzpatrick, 580, Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead.
MIDDLETON: Mrs. G. G. Ellinsworth, 5, Beech Walk, Alkrington, Middleton, Manchester.
MORECAMBE & LANCASTER: Mr. B. H. Lewin, 21, Ripley Street, Lancaster.
NEATH: Mr. George Eaton, B.Sc., "Ael-Y-Bryn," 7, Cimla Road, Neath, Glam.
NEWPORT: Mr. A. R. Snook, 23, Redland Street, Newport, Mon.
NORTHAMPTON: Miss D. Nutt, 25, Kingsley Road, Northampton.
NORWICH: Mr. E. F. Dean, 70, Brian Avenue, Norwich.
NORWOOD: Mr. A. Bothwell, 105, St. Julian's Farm Road, West Norwood.
OLDHAM: Mr. D. J. Sexton, 10, Stirling Street, Oldham.
OXFORD: Mr. G. D. N. Worswick, 62, High Street, Oxford.
PAISLEY: Mr. Thomas Barbour, 52, Kilnside Road, Paisley.
PORT TALBOT: Mr. Cyril Clarke, Claremont Bungalow, Ty-Canol Road, Baglan, Port Talbot.
PRESTON: Mr. J. J. Somerville, 21, Ribblesdale Place, Preston.
ROMFORD: Mr. D. G. Baker, 145, Rush Green Road, Romford, Essex.
RUGBY: Mrs. Lilian Teeman, 4, Vicarage Road, Rugby.
ST. HELENS: Mr. Joseph Buchan, 142, Dentons Green Lane, St. Helens.
ST. MARYLEBONE: Miss Emmeline Cohen, 5, Frognal, N.W.3.
SCARBOROUGH: Miss Dorothy Hull, 23, Moorland Road, Scarborough.
SHEFFIELD: Miss Ivy Evison, 220, Carterknowle Road, Sheffield, 7.
SLOUGH: Mr. C. E. Coleman, 59, Frances Road, Windsor, Berks.
SOUTHAMPTON: Mr. J. Elson, 5, Kingsfield Road, Southampton.
SOUTHEND: Mr. E. G. Allen, 474A, Fairfax Drive, Westcliffe-on-Sea.
SOUTHPORT: Miss Muriel Winstanley, 22, Caus Crescent, Formby, Lancs.
STAFFORD: Mr. R. N. Hopkins, 42, Baswich Lane, Stafford.
STRATFORD-ON-AVON: Mr. H. F. Wilmut, 32, Sanctus Road, Stratford-on-Avon.
STREATHAM: Mrs. Bernard Matthewson, 13, Steep Hill, Streatham, S.W.16.
STRETFORD: Mr. T. Bishop, 19, Princes Avenue, Talbot Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, 16.
STIRLINGSHIRE: Mr. George Robb, 95, Main Street, Larbert, Stirlingshire.
SUNDERLAND: Mr. G. W. Gardiner, 41, Westcliffe Road, Roker, Sunderland.
SUTTON: Mrs. B. Vernon, 88, Benhill Wood Road, Sutton, Surrey.
SWANSEA: Miss M. England, Labour Office, Elysium Buildings, High Street, Swansea.
TWICKENHAM: Mr. H. R. George, 20, Clonmel Road, Teddington, Middlesex.
THANET: Mr. H. W. Rose, "Dublin," 127, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs.
TYNESIDE: Mr. T. W. Brown, 8, The Drive, Denton Burn, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WALSALL: Mr. Moyle, 8A, Walsall Road, Aldridge, Staffs.
WALTHAMSTOW: Miss Doreen E. Wyld, 113, Orford Road, Walthamstow, E.17.
WANDSWORTH & BATTERSEA: Mrs. Amy Bush, 45, Magdalen Road, S.W.18.
WARRINGTON: Miss Mary Cooper, Howgill, Grantham Avenue, Walton, Warrington.
WARWICK & LEAMINGTON: Mrs. M. Pearman, 35, Bridge End, Warwick.
WATFORD: Mrs. Robert Plant, Top Flat, Old Highway Cottage, Berry Grove Lane, Aldenham, Watford.
WEST HAM: Mr. Kenneth Gay, 77, Upton Avenue, Forest Gate, E.7.
WEST SOMERSET: Mr. A. E. Samways, 1, Canonsgrove, Staplehay, Taunton.
WHITEHAVEN: Miss S. Taylor, 40, South Row, Kells, Whitehaven, Cumberland.
WIGAN: Mrs. D. M. Lowe, 16, Lilac Avenue, Beech Hill, Wigan, Lancs.
WILLESDEN: Mr. Tony Hughes, 52, Wrottesley Road, N.W.10.
WIMBLEDON: Miss Marion Porter, 7, Berkeley Place, S.W.19.
WOKING: Mr. F. A. Amies, Runswick, Wych Hill Lane, Woking, Surrey.
WOLVERHAMPTON: Mr. G. S. Wild, 70, Bath Road, Wolverhampton.
YORK: Mr. Jack Blitz, 62, Monkgate, York.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOUTHAMPTON: Mr. Wm. Stearn, 11, Luccombe Place, Shirley, Southampton.
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON: Mr. Geoffrey Drain, 9, Ickburgh Road, Clapton, E.5.

Regional and Area Addresses—overleaf.

ADDRESSES OF FABIAN SOCIETIES

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF REGIONAL AND AREA COMMITTEES OF LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES

SCOTLAND: Mr. R. A. Raffan, 15, Belmont Street, Aberdeen.

WEST MIDLANDS: Mr. Geoffrey Wild, 70, Bath Road, Wolverhampton.

NORTHERN: Miss Sybil Prinsky, 51, The Oval, West Hartlepool.

YORKSHIRE: Miss Marjorie Brett, 11, Helmsley Drive, Leeds, 6.

WALES: Miss Gwyneth Morgan, J.P., 27, Morlais Street, Roath Park, Cardiff.

NORTH WEST: Miss Muriel Winstanley, 22, Caus Crescent, Formby, Lancs.

SOUTH WEST: Mr. G. R. Sargeant, 123, Wedlands, Taunton, Somerset.

LONDON: Mr. P. Meyer, 68, Holland Park, W.11.

HANTS. & DORSET: Mr. Cyril Speller, 687, Wimborne Road, Winton, Bournemouth.

SURREY: Mrs. Betty Vernon, 88, Benhill Wood Road, Sutton, Surrey.

KENT: Mr. W. S. Copp, 155, Hythe Road, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX: Mr. A. E. Johnson, 115, Clare Road, Braintree.

MIDDLESEX: Miss Joyce Worley, 23, Linkenholt Mansions, Stamford Brook, W.6.

Printed by The Hereford Times Ltd., General Printing Works (T.U.), London and Hereford. L.4850.